

82 8083759

SUO

PAGE 001

NC 8083759

TOR: 252320Z FEB 82

FEB 25 7 01 PM '82

00 RUEAIIB
ZNR UUUUU ZOC STATE ZZH
STU4512
00 RUEHC
DE RUESJO #1343 0562251
ZNR UUUUU ZZH
O 252247Z FEB 82
FM AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8634
RUEHIA/USICA WASHDC IMMEDIATE 394
INFO RUESBG/AMEMBASSY BOGOTA 1776
RUESRS/AMEMBASSY CARACAS 2532
RUESMG/AMEMBASSY MANAGUA 6560
RUEHZP/AMEMBASSY PANAMA 7499
RUESAL/AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR 6674
RUESTE/AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA 5855
BT
UNCLAS SAN JOSE 1343

E.O. 12065: N/A

TAGS: SOPN, PINT, XL, XK, CS

SUBJ: FAVORABLE REACTION TO PRESIDENT REAGAN'S OAS SPEECH;
HEAVY PRESS COVERAGE RECEIVED

REFS: A) SAN JOSE 1258 B) SAN JOSE 1260 C) SAN JOSE 1274
D) SAN JOSE 1300 E) SAN JOSE 1301 F) FBIS CHIVA CHIVA PN
PA 241941 G) SAN JOSE 1299 H) USINFO SAN JOSE 1337

1. ON HIS 25 FEBRUARY POPULAR AFTERNOON TELEVISION COMMENTARY/
INTERVIEW PROGRAM, GUIDO FERNANDEZ (FORMER LONG-TIME "LA NACION"
EDITOR AND WINNER OF THE "HENRY MOORS CABOT AWARD" FOR JOURNALISM)
CITED PRESIDENT REAGAN'S OAS ADDRESS AS "ON OF THE MOST
IMPORTANT SPEECHES IN RELATION TO LATIN AMERICA" AND VIEWED

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

STATE

82 8083759 SUO

PAGE 002
TOR: 252320Z FEB 82

NC 8083759

IT AS "A CORRECT PERCEPTION AND RAPID REMEDY" OF THE PROBLEM.
HE SAID HE WILL COMMENT FURTHER ON SUBSEQUENT PROGRAMS.

2. PROMINENT ATTORNEY, BUSINESSMAN AND DEPUTY, RODRIGO MADRIGAL STATED THE SAME DAY THAT THE SPEECH WAS "VERY POSITIVE" AND THAT PRESIDENT REAGAN SHOWED A SHARP UNDERSTANDING OF THE ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL PROBLEMS OF THE REGION. HE RECOGNIZED THAT BECAUSE OF WORLD-WIDE ECONOMIC PROBLEMS, THE DEVELOPED COUNTRIES CAN NO LONGER GIVE LARGE AMOUNTS OF AID. HE ADDED THAT ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT CAN HELP STOP THE SPREAD OF COMMUNISM.

3. PRESIDENT CARAZO 24 FEBRUARY PUBLICLY RELEASED TEXTS OF BOTH PRESIDENT REAGAN'S LETTER TO HIM SUMMARIZING THE SPEECH AND OF HIS 24 FEBRUARY RESPONSE TO THAT LETTER (REFS D AND E). FULL TEXT OF BOTH LETTERS WERE PUBLISHED IN 25 FEBRUARY NEWSPAPERS. FONMIN BERND NIEHAUS 24 FEBRUARY CALLED THE SPEECH "HISTORICAL" AND A REFLECTION OF THE U.S. CONCERN FOR COSTA RICA'S PROBLEMS AND OF THE "NECESSITY FOR CLOSER NORTH-SOUTH COOPERATION." SECOND VICE-PRESIDENT JOSE MIGUEL ALFARO STATED THE SAME DAY THAT COSTA RICA IS READY TO ACCEPT THE CHALLENGE FOR DEVELOPMENT AND CALLED IT "AN HISTORIC DAY, BECAUSE IT GIVES US THE OPPORTUNITY TO MORE FULLY ENTER THE NORTH AMERICAN MARKET."

4. PRESIDENT OF THE FEDERATION OF CENTRAL AMERICAN INDUSTRIES (FECAICA) CARLOS MANUEL ZECCA 25 FEBRUARY PRAISED THE SPEECH AND THE OPENING OF THE U.S. MARKET PROPOSED. ZECCA CALLED IT A "PRAGMATIC" PROGRAM THAT OFFERED GREAT HOPE.

5. "LA PRENSA LIBRE" 25 FEBRUARY EDITORIALIZED THAT PRESIDENT REAGAN'S PROPOSAL IS BASED NOT ONLY ON FRIENDSHIP BUT ALSO ON THE U.S.'S OWN SECURITY. (SEE USINFO SEPTEL FOR DETAILS OF EDITORIAL, 'MAN IN THE STREET' INTERVIEWS, AND OTHER COMMENTARY).

6. WE UNDERSTAND THAT VARIOUS BUSINESS ORGANIZATIONS ARE IN THE PROCESS OF WRITING FAVORABLE RESPONSES TO THE SPEECH, TO BE ADDRESSED TO PRESIDENT REAGAN VIA THE

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

STATE

82 8083759 SUO

PAGE 003
TOR: 252320Z FEB 82

NC 8083759

EMBASSY. EMBASSY HAS ALSO RECEIVED MANY PRIVATE EXPRESSIONS
OF CONGRATULATION FROM POLITICIANS, BUSINESSMEN AND OTHERS.
GES V SEE REF H FOR FURTHER DETAILED MEDIA COVERAGE.
MCNEIL

END OF MESSAGE

UNCLASSIFIED